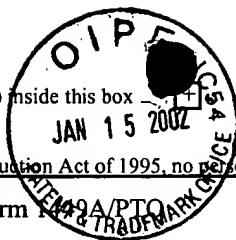


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box



PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form PTO/SB/8A <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/977,151
				Filing Date	October 12, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Brian M. Adams
				Group Art Unit	3737
				Examiner Name	To be assigned
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	A-70895/RBC/VEJ

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
RA	A1	6,231,491	B1	ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	05/15/2001	
	B1	6,129,228		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	10/10/2000	
	C1	6,086,523		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	07/11/2000	
	D1	5,957,312		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	09/28/1999	
	E1	5,915,574		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	06/29/1999	
	F1	5,839,627		HICKS <i>et al.</i>	11/24/1998	
	G1	5,810,184		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	09/22/1998	
	H1	5,765,747		LAWSON	06/16/1998	
	I1	5,735,426		BABCOCK <i>et al.</i>	04/07/1998	
	J1	5,678,719		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	10/21/1997	
	K1	5,597,082		LUCH <i>et al.</i>	01/28/1997	
	L1	5,512,228		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	04/30/1996	
	M1	5,397,013		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	03/14/1995	
	N1	5,348,184		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	09/20/1994	
	O1	5,348,183		LUCH <i>et al.</i>	09/20/1994	
RA	P1	5,303,838		LUCH <i>et al.</i>	04/19/1994	
	T1					
	U1					
	V1					

RECEIVED  
JAN 22 2002  
TO 3/00 MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
RA	W1	FR	1,523,236		GENERAL ALIMENTAIRE S.A.	05/25/1968		
RA	X1 ✓	GB	935,117		LE BOUCHAGE MECHANIQUE	08/28/1963		
RA	Y1	CA	685,952		FRAME S.A.	05/05/1964		
	Z1							

Examiner Signature	<i>R. Hylton</i>	Date Considered	12/7/02
--------------------	------------------	-----------------	---------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231. (1069680)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO JAN 15 2002 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/977,151
				Filing Date	October 12, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Brian M. Adams
				Group Art Unit	3737
Examiner Name	To be assigned				
Sheet	2	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	A-70895/RBC/VEJ

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
RH	A2	5,303,837		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	04/19/1994	
	B2	5,301,849		GUGLIELMINI <i>et al.</i>	04/12/1994	
	C2	5,272,855		TOGI <i>et al.</i>	12/28/1993	
	D2	5,271,519		ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	12/21/1993	
	E2	5,249,695		LUCH <i>et al.</i>	10/05/1993	
	F2	5,176,300		KISHIKAWA <i>et al.</i>	01/05/1993	
	G2	5,174,465		LUCH <i>et al.</i>	12/29/1992	
	H2	5,133,486		MOORE <i>et al.</i>	07/28/1992	
	I2	5,108,029		ABRAMS <i>et al.</i>	04/28/1992	
	J2	5,069,372		KAWAJIRI	12/03/1991	
	K2	5,004,126		KLESIUS	04/02/1991	
	L2	4,948,003		MUNOZ	08/14/1990	
	M2	4,887,765		RAUSING	12/19/1989	
	N2	4,850,503		LARSSON	07/25/1989	
	O2	4,807,769		GACH	02/28/1989	
RH	P2	4,801,037		HAYASHIDA <i>et al.</i>	01/31/1989	
	T2					
	U2					
	V2					

RECEIVED  
JAN 22 2002  
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
	W2							
	X2							
	Y2							
	Z2							

Examiner Signature	<i>R. H. Adams</i>	Date Considered	12/7/02
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	---------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231. (1069680)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
		Application Number	09/977,151		
		Filing Date	October 12, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Brian M. Adams		
		Group Art Unit	3737		
		Examiner Name	To be assigned		
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	A-70895/RBC/VEJ

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
PA	A3	4,757,911		LARKIN <i>et al.</i>	07/19/1988	
	B3	4,746,025		KRAUTKRAMER <i>et al.</i>	05/24/1988	
	C3	4,703,610		BACH	11/03/1987	
	D3	4,671,420		MARCUS	06/09/1987	
	E3	4,669,640		ANDO <i>et al.</i>	06/02/1987	
	F3	4,463,867		NAGEL	08/07/1984	
	G3	4,453,646		HARRILD	06/12/1984	
	H3	4,408,697		YOSHIKAWA <i>et al.</i>	10/11/1983	
	I3	4,380,303		ALLEN <i>et al.</i>	04/19/1983	
	J3	4,356,939		FITTE	11/02/1982	
	K3	4,019,663		KRAUTKRAMER	04/26/1977	
	L3	3,998,354		SONG	12/21/1976	
	M3	3,458,080		LAURIZIO	07/29/1969	
	N3	3,135,441		WISE <i>et al.</i>	06/02/1964	
	RA	O3	D450,582	S	ADAMS <i>et al.</i>	11/20/2001
	P3					
	T3					
	U3					
	V3					

RECEIVED  
JAN 22 2002  
TC 370D MAIL ROOM

RECEIVED  
JAN 22 2002  
TO 370D MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
	W3							
	X3							
	Y3							
	Z3							

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	12/7/02
--------------------	--	-----------------	---------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231. (1069680)